

IMMIGRATION- 1939

Eufaula, Ala. Tribune
August 9, 1939

Caribbean Now Negro Source Of Immigration

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—A study by Dr. Ira De A. Reid, of Atlanta University, has shown that few of the 100,000 foreign-born negroes in the United States are either "Africans" or "black."

Reid, in his study, "The Negro Immigrant," which was published by the Columbia University Press, said negro immigrants to this country come mostly from the Caribbean area and represent a polyglot collection of racial mixtures.

Negro immigrants, particularly those from the British West Indies, Reid said, have a desire to learn that is not typical of the native-born population.

"High schools and colleges in New York City have an unusually high foreign-born negro representation," he said. "It seems a justifiable opinion that negroes, foreign and native, have developed an almost exaggerated interest in higher education as an avenue of escape to the accumulation of wealth."

Reid said, however, that the desire for learning was not because the West Indies negroes are more "intelligent" than native-born negroes. He said it was because the ones who had the desire to immigrate from the Indies were of a higher class than average.

U. S. REFUSES TO PROTEST PANAMA'S BAN ON NEGROES

NEW YORK, Oct. 26.—The United States State Department has expressed itself as being unwilling to make representations at the present time to the Republic of Panama concerning that country's refusal to admit non-Spanish speaking American Negro citizens, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced here.

The expression of the State Department was a reply to a letter sent to Secretary of State Hull by the N.A.A.C.P., asking that our government seek removal of the restriction against Negroes entering Panama "for the purposes of securing employment or for any other lawful purposes." The N.A.A.C.P. pointed out that the restriction against Negroes is an insult to more than one-tenth of the American population and thus an insult to the United States, and hurtful to the friendly relations between the two countries.

Section 15 of Panama's current laws relating to immigration reads as follows: "The immigration is positively prohibited of Chinese, Gypsies, Armenians, Arabs, Turks, Hindus, Syrians, Lebanese, Palestinians, North Africans of the Turkish race, and Negroes whose native language is not Spanish."

The State Department gave as its reason for non-action in the matter, the fact that "it is a generally recognized practice in the intercourse of States, that each government has the right to regulate and if necessary to forbid, the immigration of aliens into its territory."

Admitting this fact, the N.A.A.C.P., in a second letter sent to the State Department, insisted that our government would not be going beyond the bounds of friendly intercourse between States, if representations are made to Panama to abolish the restriction order affecting Negroes.

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
August 7, 1939

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Immigration - 1939

Savannah Press
January 5, 1939

FORMER EDITOR HERE IS DEPORTED

Vere Edward Johns, former editor of a local colored paper, was deported yesterday by U. S. immigration authorities. He was sent to Tampa en route to Jamaica. Also deported was Harry C. Schou, who was sent aboard the Italian steamer Arsa to Denmark after having been held in jail here for six weeks.

Opens Drive on Anti-Alien Bills



B'klyn Swings Into Action on Anti-Alien Bills

Meeting Spurred by FDR Message Rallies to Widen Campaign

Having received President Roosevelt's hopes that their activity "will be highly successful in every way and rich in accomplishment," the Brooklyn division of the National Emergency Conference to combat the attack on American democratic methods embodied in some 60 alien-baiting bills now before Congress, Tuesday night brought together representatives of at least 410,000 Brooklynites to organize further support for their campaign.

The key effort at the conference, held in the Plaza Hall, 350 Flatbush Avenue Extension, was to swing the members of the groups represented into immediate and effective action to prevent the anti-New Deal bloc in Congress from slipping the bills past an unsuspecting public.

Fraternal, religious and labor groups as the International Insti-



Delegates and speakers at the meeting of the Brooklyn Emergency Council meeting Tuesday night are shown in session at Plaza Hall, Brooklyn. Top photo shows four of the speakers: Walter Pickens, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Rabbi Benjamin Plotkin, national chairman of the American-Jewish Alliance; Michael Garriga, vice-president of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, AFL; and Dr. Gerald I. Machacek, national president of the United Czechoslovakian Societies. Other photo shows general view of meeting.

tute of the YMCA, the Borough League of Brooklyn, the United Parents Associations of Brooklyn and New York City, the American Sons of Italy, the National Polish Alliance, the National Council of Jewish Women, the International Order of Brith Abraham, the Brooklyn Philanthropic League, the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, the United American Czechoslovak Societies, and the Spanish Consolidated Societies.

LABOR REPRESENTED

Labor unions which sent delegates included Journeymen Tailors Union, Local 1, ACW; District 4 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, with its affiliated locals; the Brooklyn Division of the Transport Workers Union; the International Fur Workers Union; the State, County and Municipal Workers of America; the Social Service Employees Union; the Furniture Workers Union, local 140; the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance, A. F. of L.; the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Technicians and Chemists.

Messages condemning the Smith Omnibus Bill, the Hobbs Concentration Camp Bill, the Reynolds Registration Bill and the Dempsey Deportation Bill were sent to all Congressmen from Brooklyn districts and to Senators Robert Wagner and James Mead, to Chairman Samuel Dickstein of the House Committee on Immigration and to Chairman Richard B. Russell, Jr., of the Senate Committee on Immigration.

ADOPTS STEPS

The delegates also pledged to urge their own organizations and all other organizations to which they and their fellow-members belong to adopt the following practical steps where this legislation could be defeated,

"1—To organize a letter campaign to our own Congressmen and local legislators calling for the defeat of these bills.

"2—To publicize the nature of this so-called anti-alien legislation (a) in our own press, (b) through letters to the editors of our city newspapers, (c) through the distribution of effective literature.

"3—To immediately respond to the present situation and any further adverse developments in this legislation by organizing visiting delegations to our Congressmen in Washington and to their homes in Brooklyn, to discuss with them the issues involved and to secure their active opposition to these measures.

"4—To urge our organization the need to support financially, to the best of its ability, the work of the National Emergency Conference.

"5—To prepare our fellow-members—and all others that can be reached—through the above activity for participation in a State-wide Conference to be held some time before the coming Fall elections so that our future legislators will be informed of public opinion on this and related issues, and to continue support of the National Emergency Conference for this purpose."